



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Mitt Romney, Governor ♦ Kerry Healey, Lt. Governor ♦ Jane Wallis Gumble, Director

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HEALEY ANNOUNCES \$5.2 MILLION FOR GLOUCESTER HOUSING
Century-old glue factory to be transformed into housing

GLOUCESTER – In an effort to boost the supply of housing across the Commonwealth, Lieutenant Governor Kerry Healey today announced a \$5.2 million investment that will transform the 100-year-old LePage Glue Factory into 115 new homes on 21 acres.

“At a time when rents and home prices throughout the Commonwealth continue to rise, Governor Romney and I are dedicated to increasing the housing stock across the state,” Healey said. “With the investment of these resources, many families can continue to live and work in Massachusetts.”

Joined by Senator Bruce Tarr, Mayor John Bell and other state and local officials, Healey pledged \$250,000 from the state’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund to Cape Ann Housing Opportunities, Inc. (CAHO), a Gloucester based non-profit organization, to support the first phase of the multi-stage development.

Healey said that CAHO received nearly \$5 million in state financial resources for the first construction phase as part of \$75 million worth of grants, loans and tax credits awarded earlier this summer by Governor Mitt Romney to create affordable housing opportunities in 21 communities throughout the Commonwealth.

Approximately \$4.2 million of the funds for Gloucester will be generated through private investment in exchange for 10 years of state-administered federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits. Another \$750,000 is being administered from the state Department of Housing and Community Development’s (DHCD) HOME program.

“Cape Ann Housing Opportunities is transforming the potential of the LePage property into the reality of affordable homes for families on Cape Ann,” said Tarr. “It’s great that their local initiative is being propelled by a strong financial partnership with the state.”

Phase One of the project, slated for completion in late 2005, involves renovating three former mill buildings, resulting in 39 new apartments that will be rented to low- and moderate-income families. The development will offer all of its residents a range of community facilities and services.

Phase Two will yield 37 condominiums which will be sold at both affordable and market rates. CAHO will also create additional apartments and ownership units on the 21-acre site in the near future.

Healey said that when the 147 Essex Avenue project is complete, it will blend 115 rental and homeownership units, with 77 of them set aside for low- and moderate-income residents. She also noted that the development's central location will provide its residents with easy access to local buses and the commuter rail station.

“There is an ever increasing demand in Massachusetts to develop housing that is affordable to those across a broad range of incomes,” said Jane Wallis Gumble, DHCD Director. “I am delighted that we can be a partner in this important project which will provide new rental and homeownership opportunities to Cape Ann households.”

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